

Farm Structure Survey in Greece - 2007

166 % increase in the area under organic farming

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This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Greece.

860 200 agricultural holdings were recorded in Greece in the Farm Structure Survey 2007 (4.8% more than in 2005).

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Due to the different coverage of the FSS across Member States, the total number of farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis, including Tables 1-4 and the graphs focus on holdings of at least one European Size Unit (ESU). See the methodological notes for more information on the concept of ESU.

In 2007, 83% of the **agricultural holdings (711 100)** had an economic size of at least 1 ESU, compared with 678 100 in 2005 (a 4.9% increase).

They occupied about **4.00 million ha of utilised agricultural area (UAA)**, an increase of 2.3% compared with 2005. On average 5.6 ha were utilized per holding (compared with 8.1 ha in 2005);

These holdings employed **548 000 AWUs** (annual work units). The average area per AWU is 7.3 ha (around 0.5 ha more than in 2005);

They had **2.6 million livestock units (LSU)** in 2007, 6.1% more than in 2005.

Amongst these **711 100** agricultural holdings:

70.8% made use of less than one AWU, while another 7.1% made use of 2 or more AWUs;

2% produced mainly for own consumption and 26% produced mainly for direct sales;

29% of Greek farms specialised in olives, a 2% increase compared with the 2005 value;

13% of the holdings specialised in general field cropping;

12% specialised in mixed cropping;

10% of the holdings specialised in various crops and

livestock combined;

10% were specialised in cereals, oil seed and protein crops.

82% of the total labour force was family labour force in Greece in 2007.

Amongst the sole holders:

29% were women;

55% were aged 55 or more and 8% were younger than 35 years;

20% of the sole holders had another gainful activity in 2007.

In Greece in 2007, 65% of the agricultural area was farmed by its owners.

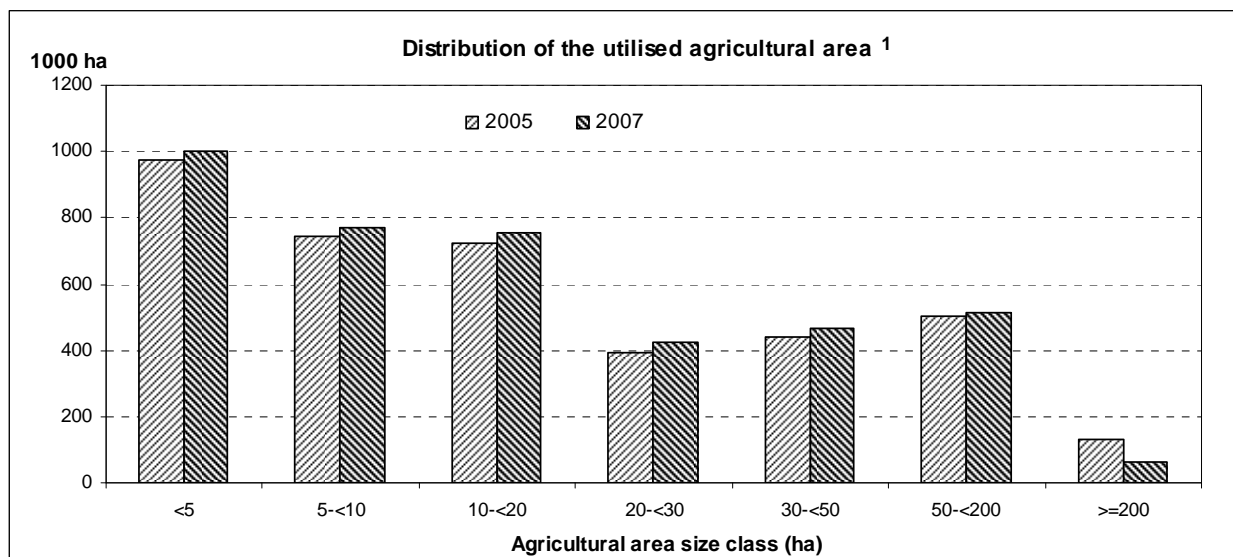
71.2% of the agricultural area was situated in less favoured or mountain areas in 2007.

There was an increase in fallow land (73%) from 2005 to 2007.

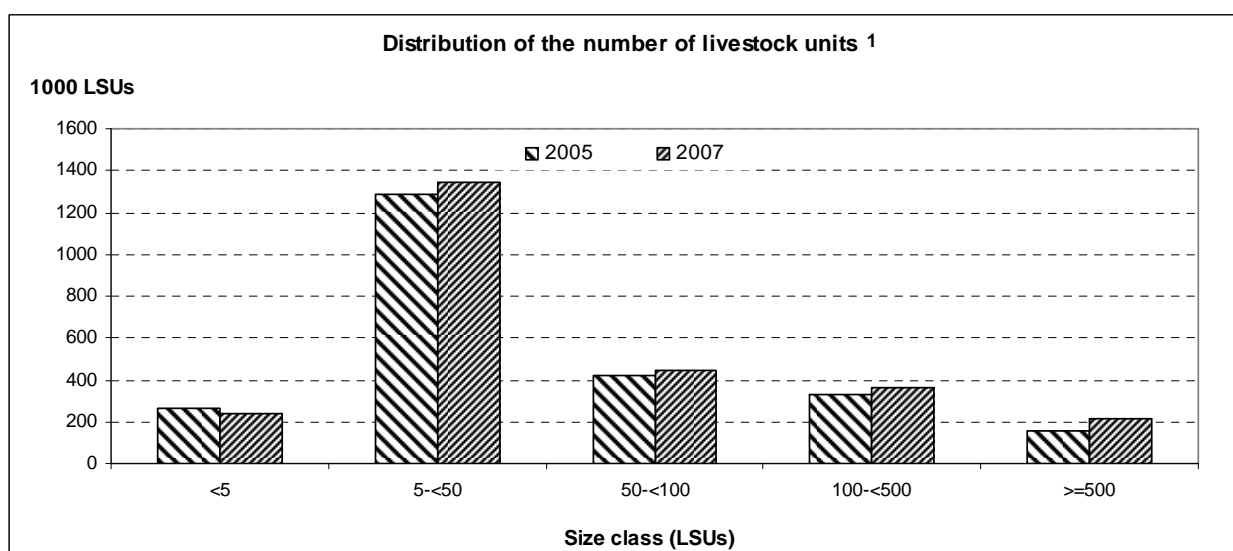
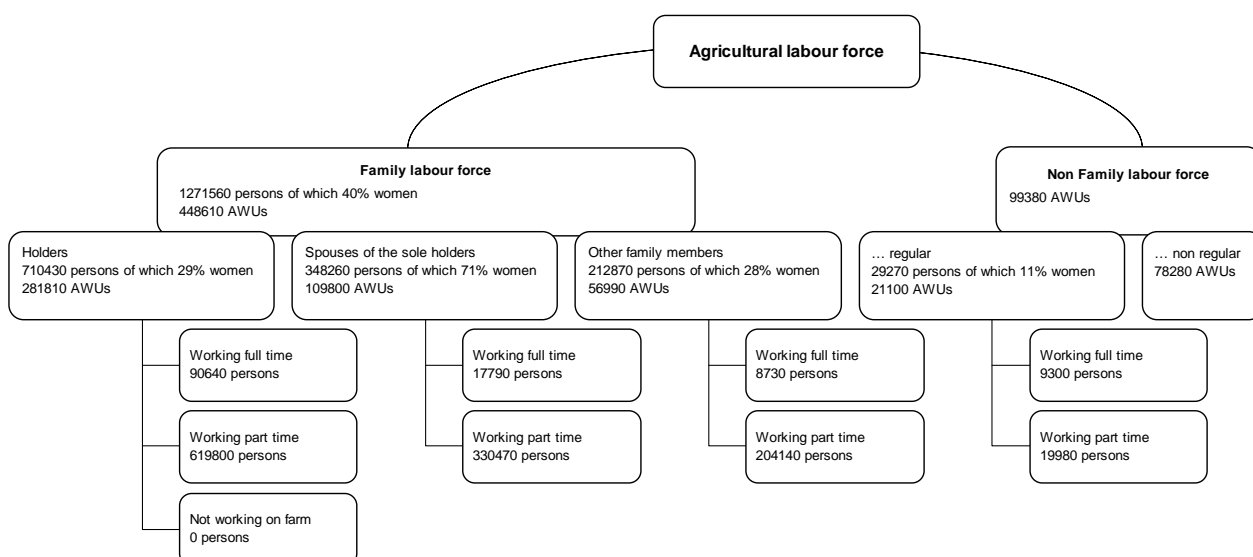
There was a noticeable increase in the area used for common wheat and spelt (63%), which went from 2.7% of the UAA in 2005 to 4.2% in 2007. On the other hand, the area sown with durum wheat also fell by a 1 quarter (-26%). The area used for durum wheat diminished from 17% (2005) to 13% (2007) of the total UAA of Greece.

Industrial plants decreased by 10%, in particular tobacco plantations fell by 62%.

There was a 166% increase in the area under organic farming; in 2007 it counted for 5% of the UAA, in 2005 only for 2%. The average area of organic holdings was 7.1 ha.



Description of the labour force in Greece ¹



*LSUs = Livestock Unit

¹ Holdings of at least 1 ESU (see page 1)

Size of the farms		Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU*)			
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Total labour force										
	1000 annual work units	486.6	47.3	11.2	2.9	548.0	218.5	308.4	14.4	6.7
Family labour force										
	1000 persons	1199.8	57.8	11.6	2.4	1271.6	627.9	625.2	14.1	4.5
	1000 annual work units	402.9	35.7	8.2	1.8	448.6	166.4	267.6	11.1	3.5
Non-family labour regularly employed										
	1000 persons	22.3	4.7	1.5	0.7	29.3	11.3	12.3	2.7	2.9
	1000 annual work units	15.6	3.6	1.2	0.6	21.1	7.2	8.8	2.4	2.7
Non regular non family labour force										
	1000 annual work units	68.1	8.0	1.7	0.4	78.3	44.9	32.0	1.0	0.5
Holding managers	1000	673.7	30.2	5.9	1.2	711.1	371.2	330.8	6.7	2.4
- women	(%)	24.4	12.2	9.4	8.0	23.7	26.6	20.8	9.5	10.7
- part-time: - under 50 %	(%)	68.3	20.6	9.1	8.5	65.7	77.9	53.7	3.8	5.9
- 50 % and over	(%)	20.7	34.1	25.7	18.8	21.3	17.9	25.3	14.9	14.4
Sole/main holders	1000	673.2	30.2	5.8	1.2	710.4	371.0	330.6	6.7	2.2
- women	(%)	29.6	18.3	13.9	12.3	29.0	32.3	25.7	12.5	13.3
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		7.3	15.2	18.6	16.5	7.8	7.3	8.1	21.4	13.4
- from 35 to 44 years		15.2	27.0	29.2	30.4	15.9	16.7	14.6	28.7	29.9
- from 45 to 54 years		21.3	23.2	26.2	28.7	21.5	22.0	20.7	26.6	28.0
- from 55 to 64 years		19.9	18.4	16.7	18.1	19.8	19.1	20.7	15.1	18.0
- 65 years and over		36.2	16.2	9.3	6.3	35.1	34.9	35.9	8.2	10.8
- part-time: - under 50 %	(%)	68.4	20.6	9.1	8.7	65.8	77.9	53.8	3.9	6.4
- 50 % and over	(%)	20.7	34.1	25.9	19.2	21.4	17.9	25.3	14.9	15.5
- with another gainful activity ²	(%)	20.5	8.8	5.8	5.8	19.9	24.9	14.7	3.8	3.6
- as a main occupation		17.6	3.9	2.1	1.7	16.8	22.2	11.3	1.3	1.4
- as a subsidiary occupation		2.9	5.0	3.8	4.0	3.0	2.7	3.4	2.5	2.1
Spouse of sole holder	1000	328.7	15.8	3.1	0.6	348.3	159.4	184.0	3.7	1.1
- women	(%)	70.7	76.9	80.9	81.3	71.1	65.5	75.6	84.5	86.5
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		6.9	16.9	20.6	22.5	7.5	6.6	8.0	24.4	16.7
- from 35 to 54 years		43.7	53.4	57.4	54.2	44.2	47.2	41.4	55.3	60.9
- 55 years and over		49.4	29.7	22.0	23.5	48.2	46.2	50.7	20.4	22.5
- part-time: - under 50 %	(%)	79.1	53.7	40.4	38.0	77.5	87.3	70.4	26.5	26.3
- 50 % and over	(%)	16.5	29.8	37.4	32.9	17.4	11.3	22.0	40.0	37.7
- with another gainful activity	(%)	22.4	14.7	11.3	12.3	21.9	28.5	16.5	10.2	8.9
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding	1000	197.8	11.9	2.6	0.6	212.9	97.5	110.6	3.7	1.1
- women	(%)	28.0	22.5	23.0	13.9	27.6	26.6	28.8	23.0	22.7
- part-time: - under 50 %	(%)	84.8	63.3	52.7	36.0	83.1	90.7	78.2	41.5	38.4
- 50 % and over	(%)	11.9	24.9	27.2	31.3	12.8	8.2	16.3	28.5	25.9
- with another gainful activity	(%)	44.7	26.8	21.8	20.1	43.4	49.0	39.6	15.4	15.6

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Holdings of at least 1 ESU (see page 1)² Only holders who are also farm managersSource: Eurostat ([ef_ov_lfft](#))

Greece – 2007

Table 2 – Agricultural holdings by size ¹

": not available "0" less than a half of the unit or nil Differences between totals and sub items can appear due to rounding.

Size of the farms		Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Holdings										
- total number	1000	673.7	30.2	5.9	1.2	711.1	371.2	330.8	6.7	2.4
- by legal personality of the holder	(%)									
- sole holder		99.9	99.8	99.6	98.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.6	92.6
- legal person		0.1	0.2	0.4	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	7.4
- group holders		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- by employed labour force	(%)									
- under 1 AWU		73.5	26.2	11.8	7.2	70.8	82.5	59.6	2.6	4.2
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU		20.5	48.3	50.9	42.2	22.0	13.9	30.6	41.9	29.1
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU		4.8	18.4	26.8	29.4	5.6	2.5	8.2	37.6	32.9
- 3 AWU and over		1.2	7.2	10.5	21.2	1.5	1.0	1.6	17.9	33.8
- by economic size	(%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU		72.9	7.8	2.6	0.1	69.5	75.9	64.1	0.2	0.2
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU		17.3	23.3	14.4	9.4	17.6	14.1	21.9	1.8	0
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU		8.7	47.9	45.6	38.0	10.7	8.1	12.3	75.1	15.5
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU		0.9	19.4	30.7	32.7	2.0	1.6	1.6	22.4	61.3
- 100 ESU and over		0.1	1.6	6.7	19.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	23.0
- by type of farming (top 5 + 'other')	(%)									
... specialist olives		30.0	3.3	1.8	1.8	28.6	38.4	18.4	0.1	0
... general field cropping		12.5	29.2	18.2	8.8	13.2	14.0	12.8	0.2	0
... mixed cropping		12.2	8.8	4.7	2.6	11.9	7.3	17.4	0.9	0
... various permanent crops combined		10.4	1.8	0.8	0.7	10.0	10.3	9.8	0.1	0
... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops		9.5	17.2	11.7	12.2	9.8	11.7	8.0	0.3	0
Other types of farming		25.5	39.6	62.8	73.8	26.5	18.4	33.6	98.5	99.9
- by farming methods	(%)									
- organic farming		3.5	7.7	13.5	20.3	3.8	4.3	3.1	8.0	6.8
- irrigating		61.0	66.6	58.8	47.4	61.2	59.4	63.5	48.2	48.6
- with crops under glass		1.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	1.7	1.8	1.6	0.3	0.3
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production:	(%)									
Tourism		0.1	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.1	0	0.2	0.3	0.4
Handicraft		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Processing of farm products		0.8	2.3	2.9	10.5	0.9	0.5	1.3	4.1	4.2
Wood processing		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aquaculture		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renewable energy production		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contractual work		0.5	3.9	5.3	6.8	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	1.0
Other gainful activities n.a.e		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Holdings of at least 1 ESU (see page 1)

Source: Eurostat ([ef_ov_kvaesu](#))

Greece – 2007

Table 3 – Land use by size of the farms ¹

": " not available "0" less than a half of the unit or nil Differences between totals and sub items can appear due to rounding.

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)			
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Area (1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	2731.6	929.8	403.1	236.3	4300.9	1672.0	2342.4	205.1	81.5
• H. Other area	206.1	37.5	18.5	43.3	305.4	103.4	169.9	17.7	14.4
Wooded area	41.0	15.4	1.2	0.8	58.4	25.5	31.6	0.4	0.9
• Agricultural area	2525.5	892.3	384.6	193.1	3995.5	1568.6	2172.5	187.3	67.1
- D. Arable land	1316.8	554.0	154.5	54.1	2079.4	963.2	1049.8	45.1	21.2
Cereals	703.1	316.5	86.0	33.2	1138.7	540.8	560.8	25.3	11.8
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	107.7	43.3	12.6	5.9	169.5	81.9	82.8	3.4	1.4
<i>Durum wheat</i>	291.7	153.4	38.6	14.9	498.6	289.9	200.4	5.6	2.7
<i>Rye</i>	11.7	6.6	1.6	1.2	21.0	6.8	12.7	1.0	0.6
<i>Barley</i>	79.3	36.1	12.1	5.5	132.9	43.2	81.4	5.8	2.5
<i>Oats</i>	43.6	19.8	6.8	1.5	71.5	10.3	56.7	3.3	1.2
<i>Grain maize</i>	145.8	48.3	11.5	2.5	208.1	85.2	114.4	5.6	2.9
Dried pulses	11.1	6.0	2.4	0.8	20.3	10.7	8.9	0.5	0.2
Root crops	23.9	10.9	2.2	0.4	37.4	17.0	20.0	0.3	0.1
<i>Potatoes</i>	16.7	5.3	1.2	0.3	23.5	9.7	13.5	0.2	0.1
<i>Sugar beet</i>	7.1	5.6	1.0	0.1	13.9	7.2	6.5	0.1	0
<i>Fodder root</i>	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0
Industrial crops	234.4	98.1	21.4	3.3	357.2	190.2	165.4	1.1	0.6
<i>Tobacco</i>	17.6	1.3	0.2	0	19.1	9.4	9.6	0.1	0
<i>Hops</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cotton</i>	207.2	92.3	19.6	2.6	321.7	172.4	148.0	0.8	0.5
<i>Rape and turnip</i>	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0	0
<i>Sunflower</i>	7.1	3.4	1.3	0.5	12.3	5.7	6.4	0.1	0
<i>Soya</i>	0.1	0	0	0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	47.3	12.1	2.2	0.5	62.2	33.6	28.3	0.2	0.1
<i>outside</i>	42.9	11.7	2.2	0.5	57.3	30.8	26.3	0.1	0.1
<i>under glass</i>	4.4	0.4	0	0	4.8	2.8	2.0	0	0
Flower and ornamental plants	1.0	0.1	0	0	1.1	0.9	0.2	0	0
<i>outside</i>	0.5	0	0	0	0.6	0.5	0.1	0	0
<i>under glass</i>	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0.4	0.1	0	0
Forage plants	156.5	67.3	25.6	9.2	258.6	71.6	165.1	14.7	7.2
Fallow land	137.9	41.7	14.3	6.5	200.3	96.3	99.7	3.0	1.3
- E. Kitchen garden	10.8	0.5	0.1	0	11.4	2.9	8.4	0.1	0
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows	193.6	274.9	214.0	132.7	815.2	2.0	637.2	133.0	43.1
- G. Permanent crops	1004.3	62.9	16.0	6.3	1089.5	600.6	477.1	9.1	2.7
Fruit and berry plantation	118.6	7.3	1.1	0.2	127.2	82.0	44.4	0.5	0.3
Citrus plantation	49.4	1.7	0.3	0	51.4	30.2	20.9	0.1	0.1
Olive trees	733.5	47.1	12.7	4.5	797.7	424.2	363.9	7.5	2.1
Vineyard	97.8	6.2	1.8	1.2	107.0	60.1	46.1	0.6	0.2
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding (ha)	3.7	29.5	65.6	155.0	5.6	4.2	6.6	28.0	28.5
Agricultural area... (%)									
... own farmed	77.2	46.1	41.6	29.4	64.5	68.5	63.7	46.2	47.1
... in less favoured or mountain area	65.0	77.9	87.8	89.1	71.2	61.0	76.5	90.8	84.4
... organic farmed	4.0	4.3	7.2	12.8	4.8	6.0	3.7	7.6	8.1
... irrigated	37.9	26.9	14.7	6.1	31.7	40.6	27.7	9.8	13.6

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Holdings of at least 1 ESU (see page 1)

Source: Eurostat ([ef_ov_lusum](#))

Greece – 2007

Table 4 – Livestock by size of the farm ¹

": not available "0" less than a half of the unit or nil Differences between totals and sub items can appear due to rounding.

Size of the farms		Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Total livestock	(1000 LSU)	1941.2	419.7	180.4	71.0	2612.2	0	1587.3	445.1	579.9
of which grazing	(%)	73.7	90.5	93.4	90.6	78.2	:	89.3	91.0	38.0
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)									
Equidae		26.3	3.2	1.4	0.5	31.5	0	25.5	2.2	3.7
Bovine animals		548.7	126.9	34.3	21.5	731.4	0	263.7	250.1	217.6
Under 1 year		163.2	38.0	12.2	7.5	221.0	0	94.4	68.9	57.7
From 1 to less than 2 years		93.6	26.4	5.7	4.0	129.7	0	44.3	43.8	41.6
Dairy cows		119.4	29.8	6.1	2.1	157.4	0	55.9	45.5	55.9
Other cows		146.2	26.9	8.9	6.6	188.7	0	58.7	80.4	49.5
Other bovine animals 2 years and older		26.3	5.7	1.4	1.2	34.7	0	10.3	11.5	12.9
Sheep		6810.2	2055.6	933.0	242.8	10041.7	0	8375.7	1300.1	365.9
Goats		3380.3	814.9	507.2	253.0	4955.4	0	3789.2	952.6	213.5
Granivores										
Pigs	(1000 heads)	950.9	113.4	35.3	10.9	1110.5	0	274.2	88.3	748.1
Piglets < 20 kg		324.2	42.9	12.3	3.2	382.6	0	123.5	38.7	220.5
Breeding sows		146.5	17.5	6.2	2.6	172.7	0	55.9	19.4	97.4
Other pigs		480.2	53.0	16.8	5.1	555.2	0	94.7	30.1	430.3
Poultry	(million heads)	31.0	1.2	0.4	0.3	33.0	0	9.0	2.2	21.8
Broilers		23.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	24.3	0	3.8	1.8	18.7
Laying hens		7.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	8.1	0	4.7	0.4	3.0
Other poultry		0.5	0.1	0	0	0.6	0	0.4	0.1	0.1
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	202.0	10.3	2.0	0.5	214.9	0	212.2	2.0	0.7
Beehives	(1000)	842.6	29.3	4.6	1.4	878.0	476.9	396.7	3.3	1.1
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)									
Equidae	(head/holding)	2.0	2.0	2.3	3.9	2.0	:	1.7	3.7	23.9
Cattle	(head/holding)	31.3	44.4	49.8	99.9	34.3	:	15.4	82.6	184.0
Dairy cows	(head/holding)	18.0	26.7	30.8	41.8	19.7	:	8.8	41.7	103.9
Other cows	(head/holding)	19.1	21.6	22.5	50.3	20.1	:	8.5	43.4	80.8
Sheep	(head/holding)	61.4	159.8	274.7	380.5	78.6	:	67.9	350.3	485.9
Goats	(head/holding)	36.5	91.8	175.3	320.7	47.1	:	37.5	283.1	343.2
Pigs	(head/holding)	33.8	32.9	40.3	58.9	34.0	:	8.9	68.7	1113.2
Breeding sows	(head/holding)	16.5	11.3	14.9	24.1	15.8	:	5.9	22.7	161.2
Other pigs > 20 kg	(head/holding)	23.0	20.2	25.3	35.5	22.9	:	4.2	31.4	696.2
Rabbits, breeding females	(head/holding)	5.3	6.4	6.0	6.3	5.4	:	5.4	5.8	7.9
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	0	0	0	0.4	0	:	0	0.1	3.8
Broilers	(1000/holding)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.2	:	0	1.1	24.9
Beehives	(hive/holding)	88.5	59.2	37.2	48.4	86.3	123.8	63.7	49.0	38.0

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Holdings of at least 1 ESU (see page 1)

Source: Eurostat ([ef_ov_lssum](#))

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular Labour force	(1000 pers)	1508.2	207.3	1300.8	13.7	86.3
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	488.5	18.8	469.7	3.8	96.2
Holders with...	(1000)	859.5	149.1	710.4	17.3	82.7
... at least 65 years		321.2	72.1	249.0	22.5	77.5
... another gainful activity		184.9	43.6	141.3	23.6	76.4
Number of sole holdings	(1000)	860.2	149.1	711.1	17.3	82.7
... producing mainly for own consumption		86.6	71.8	14.9	82.8	17.2
... producing mainly for direct sales		210.2	22.0	188.2	10.5	89.5
SGM	(1000 ESU)	6165.7	87.6	6078.1	1.4	98.6
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	4076.2	80.7	3995.5	2.0	98.0
... own farmed		2652.2	75.8	2576.4	2.9	97.1
Livestock	(1000 LSU*)	2626.6	14.3	2612.2	0.5	99.5

*LSU = Livestock unit

➤ METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The National Statistical Service of Greece (NSSG), in collaboration with its 51 Regional Statistical Offices implemented the survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Greece. The FSS 2007 was the third survey after the last Agricultural Census in 1999/2000. It was carried out between October and December 2007. The reference day for livestock was the 1st November and for the other characteristics, the reference period was from 1st October 2006 to September 2007.

The target population was all the holdings with at least 0.1 ha of UAA or 0.05 ha of greenhouses, or at least 1 cow, 2 other "large animals" (oxen, horses, donkeys or mules, 5 "small animals" (sheep, goats or pigs), 50 poultry, 20 beehives or 5 ostriches.

The sampling frame consisted of 854 302 holdings listed in the Statistical Farm Register, the outcome of the Agriculture Census 1999/2000 subsequently updated with administrative sources and with other agricultural statistical procedures carried out since the census.

The sample of 100 407 holdings (12% of the population) was selected using a one stage stratified random sampling and the Neyman allocation method. The stratification criteria were the administrative districts (NUTS 3), for nine regions (NUTS 2) the fire stricken municipalities (of the August 2007 fires), the SGM and the typology. For new farms and organic ones the UAA was used for stratification. All farms with at least 38 ESU, new farms of at least 20 ha of UAA, farms and with special qualities (organic and ostrich farms), were surveyed exhaustively.

Altogether about 98 875 questionnaires were completed using a face-to-face interview.

Non-response in the 2007 FSS in Greece was quite low: 1.5%. When the statistical information could not be collected, an additional sample replaced the missing holdings. Imputation and re-weighting was also used

Between FSS 2005 and 2007 "maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental conditions" (GAEC) became an agricultural activity and the concerned land has been included in the agricultural area. In Greece it covers close to 11 300 ha, 95% in holdings with at least 1 ESU.

For each activity ('enterprise') on a farm (for instance wheat, dairy cow or vineyard), a Standard Gross Margin (SGM) is estimated, based on the area (or the number of heads) and a regional coefficient. The sum of such margins in a farm is its economic size, expressed in European Size Units (ESU, 1 ESU is a 1200-euro SGM).

An Annual work unit (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Greece it is 2200 hours (275 working days of 8 working hours per day).

A Livestock Unit (LSU) is equivalent to a dairy cow. The number of animals (number of heads) is converted into LSU using a set of coefficients reflecting the feed requirements of the different animal categories.

➤ REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Website of the National Statistical Service of Greece:
<http://www.statistics.gr>

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 (available on request)

Further information

Eurostat Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Data on "Agriculture Statistics":

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/agriculture/data/database>

More information about "Agriculture Statistics":

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/agriculture/introduction>

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